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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/614,810	07/12/2000	Wilhelmus Hendrikus Alfonsus Bruls	PHN 17,546	7259

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
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EXAMINER

DIEP, NHON THANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2613

DATE MAILED: 08/26/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES**

Paper No. 15

Application Number: 09/614,810
Filing Date: July 12, 2000
Appellant(s): BRULS ET AL.

Russell Gross
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

MAILED
AUG 26 2003
Technology Center 2600

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 8/11/2003.

(1) *Real Party in Interest*

A statement identifying the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) *Related Appeals and Interferences*

A statement identifying the related appeals and interferences which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the decision in the pending appeal is contained in the brief.

(3) *Status of Claims*

The statement of the status of the claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) *Status of Amendments After Final*

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

(5) *Summary of Invention*

The summary of invention contained in the brief is correct.

(6) *Issues*

The appellant's statement of the issues in the brief is correct.

(7) *Grouping of*

The rejection of claims 1-21 stand or fall together because appellant's brief does not include a statement that this grouping of claims does not stand or fall together and reasons in support thereof. See 37 CFR 1.192(c)(7).

(8) *Claims Appealed*

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(9) *Prior Art of Record*

Hartung et al. "Digital Watermarking of MPEG-2 Coded Video in the Bitstream Domain", IEEE, 1997, pages 2621-2624.

(10) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 13-14 and 16-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102. This rejection is set forth in prior Office Action, Paper No. 7.

Claims 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103. This rejection is set forth in prior Office Action, Paper No. 7.

Claims 5, 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103. This rejection is set forth in prior Office Action, Paper No. 7.

(11) Response to Argument

Appellant asserts Hartung et al neither explicitly nor impliedly teaches "modifying said selected coefficient so as to represent an auxiliary data symbol" as recited in claims 1 and 17 and "transform coefficients obtained by transform coding the information signal, modified so as to represent said symbols" as recited in claims 13, 18 and 20 and that Hartung only disclosed:

"After the inverse quantization we have one DCT coefficient of the current block. We then add the corresponding DCT coefficient from the transformed watermark block, yielding a watermark DCT coefficient". However, nowhere in Hartung et al. was it disclosed that the watermarked DCT coefficient represents any kind of symbol. (see page 4, line 13 to page 5, line 6 of appellant's brief.)

The examiner respectfully disagrees. First of all, figure 6 clearly shows that “after the inverse quantization we have one DCT coefficient of the current block (= selected coefficient). We then add the corresponding DCT coefficient from the transformed watermark block (= modifying said selected coefficient so as to represent an auxiliary data symbol), yielding a watermarked DCT coefficient. We then quantize and Huffman encode the watermark coefficient, together with its preceding run of zero coefficients (transform coefficients obtained by transform coding the information signal, modified so as to represent said symbols)” and therefore, it is submitted that Hartung et al anticipates the above limitations.

Secondly, with regard to the applicants’ argument that “However, nowhere is it disclosed in Hartung et al that the watermarked DCT coefficient represents any kind of symbol.” It is respectfully submitted that the process of embedding information into multimedia is called watermarking (Abstract of Hartung et al) and that “yielding a watermarked DCT coefficient” represents embedded information which can be an arbitrary binary information, into a the compressed bit stream and therefore the watermarked DCT coefficient which includes an embedded information, represents an auxiliary data symbol.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Application/Control Number: 09/614,810
Art Unit: 2613

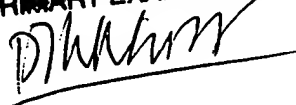
Page 5.

Respectfully submitted,

August 23, 2003

Conferees

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